MINUTES

OF THE

THIRTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ALABAMA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH THE

PROVIDENCE CHURCH, DALLAS CO., ALA.,

October 8th to 11th, 1852.

MONTGOMERY:
JOB OFFICE OF THE ALABAMA JOURNAL.
1852.

MISSIONARY BOARD OF THE ALABAMA ASSOCIATION.

LOCATED AT HAYNEVILLE.

DAVID LEE, *President.*
WM. B. HARALSON, *Vice President.*
D. P. J. MURPHY, *Secretary.*
J. P. STREETY.
I. B. STONE.
B. B. RUDOLPH.
J. H. ROBERTSON.

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PROVIDENCE BAPTIST CHURCH, DALLAS COUNTY, }
Friday, October 8th, 1852. }

THE Delegates from the Churches composing the ALABAMA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, convened with the Providence Church, according to appointment. In the absence of the principal and alternate, appointed to preach the Introductory Sermon, Elder DAVID LEE preached from 1 Cor. 16 : 22. "If any man love not the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be anathema maranatha."

After a recess of forty minutes, the Delegates re-assembled in the Meeting-House. The business of the Association was introduced with singing. Prayer by Brother P. H. LUNDY.

Called for the Letters from the different Churches, which were read, and the names of the Delegates enrolled, as follows :

Shiloh—Lewis Johnston, C. H. Cleveland, *Wm. Johnston.

Providence—LEVI PARKS, Jas. Bell, C. M. Cochran.

Centre Ridge—C. F. STURGIS, R. P. Lide, Jesse H. Lide.

Mt. Lebanon, (Dallas)—P. H. LUNDY, Wm. Wade, Seth R. Smiley.

Damascus—*MATHEW BISHOP, H. S. Staggers, Kinchin Rhodes.

Siloam—Not represented.

Union—Not represented.

Zion—N. B. Sims, *Robert Barnes.

Spring Hill—Not represented.

Sister Springs—S. Frederick, *Jeremiah Johnston, *Wm. C. Stewart.

Town Creek—L. Edwards, Freeman Hardy, W. W. Hardy, sr.

Benton—Jno. C. Hill, *Jas. Brazer, *I. LYON.

Mt. Gilead—DAVID PEEBLES, Jona. Mealing, Thos. Barlow.

Bethany—W. B. Haralson, Wm. B. Loveless, Aaron Loveless.

Ash Creek—David Gordon, *James Gordon, *Sam'l Kennedy.

Hopewell—DAVID LEE, J. H. Robertson, G. W. Young.

Smyrna—Not represented.

Hickory Grove—F. L. Ellis, Franklin Armstrong, *Wm. Moncrief.

NOTE.—Ordained Ministers' names in SMALL CAPITALS. Absentees marked thus (*).

Hayneville—*D. P. J. Murphy.

Good Hope—Moses Pierce, A. Peagler.

Antioch—A. T. M. Handey, *J. H. Cogburn, *Jno. W. Ray.

Montgomery—I. T. Tichenor, H. W. Watson, Wm. D. Martin.

Liberty—Jas. A. Mitchell, B. H. Mitchell, *Jno. N. Killan.

Elim—P. W. McLemore, Moses McLemore, *Dan'l Meadows.

Rehoboth—J. K. Barton, T. D. Brassell, *Eaves Bradford.

Unity—L. B. Tatum, *Dan'l Holt, *Madison Pollard.

Panther Creek—Jona. Orim, *C. J. Barnett, *Wm. Z. Dixon.

Ebenezer—E. B. Adams, J. T. Cloud, *Jesse Thompson.

Fair Prospect—Not represented.

Philadelphia—John Payne, *T. K. Padget, *Jno. Durell.

Bethesda—William Foster, *C. Waller, *A. Naftel.

Sarepta—David N. Mitchell, *S. Guice, *B. Shaver.

Armageddon—Not represented.

Mt. Lebanon (late Pisgah)—A. Jones, Joshua Jones, J. R. Ray.

New Hope—Robert Scofield, *J. L. Nixon.

Fellowship—Seth S. May, *M. Fonabarger.

The Association then proceeded to vote for officers for the next year, when Elder David Lee was re-elected Moderator, A. T. M. Handey, Clerk, and Brother W. B. Haralson, Treasurer.

The Moderator extended an invitation to Ministers present, not members of the Association, to seats in the body.

An opportunity was offered for newly constituted Churches to become constituent members of this Association, whereupon Letters of Petition were received from the following Churches, viz: *New Hope*, Butler County, and *Fellowship*, Lowndes County.—These Churches were cordially received, the Moderator giving to the Delegates the right hand of fellowship.

The Chair appointed the following Committees:

On Preaching—H. W. Watson, C. H. Cleveland, Freeman Hardy, with the Deacons of Providence Church.

On the State of the Churches—C. F. Sturgis, Moses McLemore, Wm. D. Martin, A. Loveless, and T. Barlow.

On Documents—P. H. Lundy, Jesse R. Ray, J. H. Robertson, R. P. Lide, Levi Parks.

On Missions—I. T. Tichenor, D. Peebles, C. F. Sturgis, L. Edwards, Franklin Armstrong.

On Finance—H. W. Watson, H. S. Staggers, J. C. Hill.

Auditing Committee—J. K. Barton, David Gordon, S. Frederick.

The Committee on Preaching reported that the stand be occupied to-morrow morning, at 11 o'clock, by Elder Francis Calloway, of the Liberty Association.

On motion the Association adjourned till Saturday morning, at half past 9 o'clock. Prayer by Elder A. W. Chambliss.

Saturday Morning, *half past 9 o'clock.*

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer was offered by Bro. F. Calloway.

Read the minutes of yesterday's proceedings, and called the roll of Delegates.

Called for the reading of the Rules of Decorum.

On motion, Brethren R. P. Lide and E. B. Adams were added to the Financial Committee.

Called for Correspondence from sister Associations, and received the following:

From the *Central Association*—Package of Minutes. Messengers, Brethren A. W. Chambliss and J. D. Williams.

From the *Bethlehem*—Letter and Minutes, by her Messenger, Brother Robert Lambert.

Pine Barren—Brethren Platt Stout and C. W. Hare, Messengers.

Tuskegee—Letter. Messengers, Brethren B. A. Blakey, Sam'l Henderson.

Autauga—Minutes. Messengers, Brethren J. I. Lamar, A. Andrews.

Bethel—Package of Minutes and Corresponding Letter. Messengers, Brethren J. Talbert and J. Reeves.

Southern Publication Society—Bro. Platt Stout, Agent.

Domestic Missionary Board S. B. C.—Brethren Wm. Howard and Joshua H. Foster, Agents.

Alabama Bible Society—Bro. J. D. Williams.

Appointed corresponding Messengers, as follows:

To the *Tuskegee Association*—To be held with Cool Spring Church, Russell County, on Saturday before the 3rd Sabbath in September, 1853—David Gordon, I. T. Tichenor, A. T. M. Handey, J. K. Barton, J. T. Cloud, H. W. Watson, P. H. Lundy, E. B. Adams, C. H. Cleveland, L. Edwards.

To the *Bethel*—To be held with the Dayton Church, Marengo

County, on Saturday before the 1st Sabbath in October, 1853—Levi Parks.

To the *Salem*—To be held with the Troy Church, Pike County, on Saturday before the 1st Sabbath in October, 1853—F. Armstrong, Amos Jones, W. S. Foster, Jas. H. Mitchell, A. T. M. Handey.

To the *Cahawba*—To be held with the Concord Church, Perry County, on Saturday before the 3rd Sabbath in October, 1852—C. M. Cochran. Bro. Parks to write.

To the *Bethlehem*—To be held with the Monroeville Church, Monroe County, on Saturday before the 4th Sabbath in September, 1853—David Peebles, S. Frederick, David Lee, H. S. Staggers, Moses Pierce.

To the *Central*—To be held with the Harmony Church, Coosa County, on Saturday before the 1st Sabbath in October, 1853—J. K. Barton, P. H. Lundy, N. B. Sims, Jona. Orim, F. L. Ellis, A. T. M. Handey.

To the *Autauga*—To be held with the Shady Grove Church, Dallas County, on Saturday before the 4th Sabbath in October, 1852—David Gordon, C. H. Cleveland, David Peebles, Littleton Edwards, F. Hardy, Jas. Bell, Jere. Johnston, S. Frederick. Bro. F. Armstrong to write.

To the *Pine Barren*—To be held with Fellowship Church, Wilcox County, on Saturday before the 2nd Sabbath in September, 1853—Moses Pierce, David Peebles, H. S. Staggers, K. Rhodes, C. M. Cochran, C. F. Sturgis, R. P. Lide, D. Lee.

Delegates to the *Alabama Baptist State Convention*—To be held at Marion, commencing Saturday before the 1st Sabbath in November, 1852—I. T. Tichenor, C. F. Sturgis, Levi Parks, C. H. Cleveland, D. Peebles, P. H. Lundy, J. A. Norwood, A. T. M. Handey, T. D. Brassell, W. D. Martin. Bro. Tichenor to write.

Voted, that any member of this body visiting the next meeting of any of the Associations with whom we correspond, and presenting a copy of the Minutes, shall be entitled to a seat as a Messenger from this Association.

Appointed Bro. P. H. Lundy to write a General Corresponding Letter to sister Associations.

The next annual session of this body appointed to be held with the *Town Creek Church*, Dallas County. Introductory Sermon by Brother I. T. Tichenor—in case of failure, Bro. M. Bishop. An-

nual Missionary Sermon on Sabbath, Bro. C. F. Sturgis—alternate, A. T. M. Handey.

On motion, the regular business was suspended, and Bro. Joseph Morris, of California, by request, addressed the Association upon the religious condition of that new and important State.

Interesting addresses were also delivered by Brethren Wm. Howard and J. D. Williams, who presented the claims of their respective Agencies.

Adjourned for forty minutes.

Afternoon Session.

Met and resumed business.

Read the Report of the Missionary Board, which was adopted. [See Appendix.]

On motion *Resolved*, That the present Board of Missions be continued, and that they have power to fill any vacancies occurring in said Board. [See Cover.]

On motion *Resolved*, That this Association approve of the recent election of the Rev. Henry Talbird, (late a member of this body,) to the Presidency of Howard College, and we cordially recommend said Institution to the patronage of our brethren at large.

Adjourned till Monday morning, 9 o'clock. Prayer by Bro. David Peebles.

LORD'S DAY.

According to the arrangement of the Committee on Preaching, the stand was occupied at 10 o'clock, A. M., by Elder C. F. Sturgis: subject "Christ crucified." At 11 o'clock Elder David Peebles preached the annual Missionary Sermon.

After a recess of one hour, Elder A. W. Chambliss, of Marion, preached: theme "Consecration and support of the Ministry."

Monday Morning, 9 *o'clock*.

The Delegates convened at the appointed hour. Prayer was offered by Bro. Tichenor.

Read the minutes of Saturday's proceedings.

Elder H. Talbird, President of Howard College, by leave, addressed the Association, setting forth the advantages of that Institution, and urging its claims upon the Baptists of Alabama for support and patronage.

The Report of the Financial Committee was received and referred to the Auditing Committee for examination.

The Treasurer of the Association read his Report, which was received and referred to the Auditing Committee.

On motion, the regular business of the body was suspended for ten minutes, to allow the Delegates present an opportunity to contribute to the funds for Domestic Missions in the bounds of this Association.

CASH CONTRIBUTED.		PLEDGES TO BE PAID AT NEXT ASSO.	
Amos Jones,	$5,00	James Bell,	$5,00
I. T. Tichenor,	5,00	N. B. Sims,	5,00
Moses McLemore,	10,00	C. M. Cochran,	5,00
H. W. Watson,	5,00	A. Peagler,	5,00
Joshua Jones,	5,00	H. S. Staggers,	5,00
G. W. Young,	5,00	A. T. M. Handey,	5,00
J. H. Robertson,	3,00	A. Loveless,	2,00
W. B. Loveless,	5,00	David Lee,	10,00
T. D. Brassell,	50		
	$43,50		42,00
			43,50
		Cash and pledges,	$85,50

On motion *Resolved*, That the objects of the Southern Baptist Publication Society are worthy of the sympathies, prayers, and cordial co-operation of our Associations, Churches and Brethren.—And be it further *Resolved*, That the Churches be advised to look into the condition of their Ministers' Libraries, and where found to be inadequate to their wants, that, as far as practicable, they supply such deficiency.

Called for Reports, and received from the Committee on Missions, on the State of the Churches, and on Documents, their respective Reports, which were adopted and ordered to be spread upon the Minutes. [See Appendix.]

On motion, the recommendations of the Committee on Documents, that this body appoint Committees to meet the Tuskegee and Central Associations at their next meeting, to aid in carrying forward the benevolent objects contemplated by said bodies, were concurred in, and the Association appointed the Messengers already named to the Tuskegee Association, the Committee to act with that body—and to the Central a special Committee of three was appointed, viz: I. T. Tichenor, A. T. M. Handey, H. W. Watson.

Elder Platt Stout, by request, addressed the Association on the claims of the Southern Baptist Publication Society.

Read and adopted the General Corresponding Letter; also, the letters to the State Convention, the Cahawba and Autauga Associations.

The Auditing Committee reported that they had examined the Report of the Committee on Finance, also the Treasurer's Report, and find them correct.

The following Resolutions were passed:

Resolved, That California, from its geographical position, from its commercial advantages, and the rapid increase of its population, presents strong claims upon the benevolence of the Christian world.

Resolved, That we believe it to be the duty of Southern Baptists to send out Missionaries, as speedily as possible, to that inviting field.

[The Delegates came forward and contributed *instánter* the sum of sixty dollars, for Missions to California, to be sent up to the Board of Domestic Missions at Marion.]

On motion,

Resolved, That whilst as members of the great Baptist family, we might not be unfavorable to a revision of the Holy Scriptures, under proper circumstances, we utterly disclaim all sympathy with the present movement by the Bible Union.

Voted, That the funds collected from the congregation on Sabbath, after the Missionary Sermon, be divided equally between the Foreign and Domestic Boards, S. B. Convention, and the Missionary Board of this Association.

Resolved, That the amount sent up for Beneficiaries in Howard College, without any particular designation, be applied to the payment of the expenses of Bro. Bell, a Beneficiary from this Association.

Resolved, That the Churches composing this body, be respectfully requested to report, through their letters, annually, the amount contributed for their Pastors and supplies, to be entered upon the minutes of statistical matter.

Voted, That the Clerk superintend the printing and distribution of the Minutes—that he have as many copies printed as the funds sent up for that purpose will allow, after deducting thirty dollars for his services and expenses.

Resolved, That the Association tender their thanks to the brethren and friends in the vicinity of Providence Church, for the kind and generous hospitality extended to the members of this body during its present session.

The business of the Association being disposed of, the Moderator closed the services by some appropriate and feeling remarks to the Delegates, and offering a fervent address to the Throne of Grace.

The Association then adjourned to meet with the Town Creek Church, Dallas County, on Friday before the second Lord's day in October, 1853.

DAVID LEE, *Moderator.*

A. T. M. HANDEY, *Clerk.*

APPENDIX.

GENERAL CORRESPONDING LETTER.

The Alabama Baptist Association to her sister Associations in correspondence, sendeth Christian salutation.

Dear Brethren: Sustained, as we have been, during the passage of another year, we are again permitted to interchange with you christian correspondence. The duty of addressing you, through this our circular, is a pleasant one, from the fact that we can impart to you cheering intelligence. The spirit of the Lord, we trust, has been in our midst for the conviction and conversion of sinners. Many of our Churches have been refreshed and their nambers increased. For these manifestations of God's favor, we would offer praise to the Author of all good. Our brethren manifest a lively interest in the efforts now being made for evangelizing the world, as is evinced by their contributions for missionary purposes. But while much is done, much more remains to be done. Constant action, untiring industry, and fervent prayer, should characterize the followers of the Redeemer, that the work of the Lord may be effectually done. Dear Brethren, we invite you to co-operate with us in furtherance of these enterprizes, which aim at the glory of God and good of immortal souls. In conclusion, Brethren, rejoice with us, that our present meeting has been harmoniously conducted. May the blessings of the Lord be added unto you. Amen.

D. LEE, *Moderator.*

A. T. M. HANDEY, *Clerk.*.

STATE OF THE CHURCHES.

The Committee on the State of the Churches respectfully report that, on an examination of the letters, they find a considerable variety in their condition, to present which properly your Committee have concluded to present the matter in detail, as follows:

Shiloh speaks of her protracted meeting; of additions; that there is peace and harmony, and the Church generally prosperous.—She solicits an interest in the prayers of her sister Churches.

Providence—no particular revival, but nothing to complain of as regards barrenness—a few tokens of the divine favor. She hopes that the time to favor Zion is not far off. Hopes and prays especially that a good work may begin during the meeting of the Association.

Centre Ridge speaks of a steady work of grace during the greater part of the year. Held a protracted meeting in May, at which time there were accessions. Has a flourishing sabbath school.

Mount Lebanon, Montgomery Co., speaks of additions since the last meeting. Expresses gratitude to God for his goodness.—Speaks of attentive congregations.

Damascus makes mention of no revival; there is no schism; church generally prosperous.

Zion—gradually increasing; nothing like division; a protracted meeting in session at the time of writing her letter. She hopes to have something cheering to communicate.

Sister Springs has nothing of interest to communicate; at peace, and desires an interest in the prayers of her sister churches.

Town Creek. Church rather in a prosperous condition; asks to have the next session with her.

Benton. Has established an arm of the church at Sand Town; she is in rather a cold state; her sabbath school flourishing.

Church Hill says that it is several years since she has enjoyed any special outpouring of the Holy Spirit; she is in peace; brotherly love prevails.

Bethany speaks of gratitude for the blessings of the Lord, in adding numbers, and restoring the spiritual strength of her members; has a sabbath school and weekly prayer meeting.

Ash Creek is not as prosperous as she could wish, but reports additions by letter and experience; is at peace and in full fellowship.

Hopewell has nothing of special interest; is at peace and in harmony; fears that there is a great deficiency of zeal and vital godliness.

Hickory Grove has no revival intelligence; is at peace; reports a small increase.

Hayneville is at peace and in harmony and desires an interest in the prayers of her sister churches.

Good Hope speaks of some accession to her numbers received by baptism; desires an interest in the prayers of her sister churches.

Antioch says she is in a cold condition; has few accessions; desires an interest in the prayers of the churches.

Montgomery regrets that she cannot tell of any wonderful work of grace, yet can and does rejoice at God's goodness during the year; has had some additions.

Liberty has nothing particularly cheering; peace and harmony prevails.

Mt. Lebanon, (*formerly Pisgah, Mont. Co.*) has nothing cheering; some additions, and is at peace. Have recently built a new house, four miles from their former site, and the church is now called Mt. Lebanon. They retain the books of Pisgah church, and consider themselves the same body.

Elim. Nothing of particular interest; complains of their harmony being disturbed from brethren taking letters. Those who remain are in peace and harmony.

Rehoboth has enjoyed a copious outpouring of the Holy Spirit, connected with which was a large accession; church prospering.

Unity speaks of mercies for which she should be grateful; has had a protracted meeting which resulted in accessions.

Panther Creek complains of coldness; the preaching is with energy and zeal; has reason to be thankful for seasons of refreshing; has had some additions.

Ebenezer has great cause for thankfulness; had a meeting of ten days which has resulted in a large accession. This is the fourth consecutive year in which she has enjoyed a revival. It is her practice to commence her protracted meetings with fasting and prayer; has a weekly prayer meeting, and recommends the practice to all her sister churches.

Philadelphia has had her sorrows and her joys; expresses gratitude for some manifestations of the presence of the Master; some additions.

Bethesda has been regularly supplied by the Association's missionary; solicits further aid in that way; are endeavoring to build.

Sarepta—cold and declining; has preaching only occasionally; destitute of a pastor; solicits an interest in the prayers of her sister churches.

New Hope—constituted recently through the labors of the Association's missionary; seventeen members in the constitution—others received since; pledges twenty dollars ($20) to be sent to the next meeting of this body; desires to share in the future labors of the missionaries.

Fellowship—recently constituted, with twenty-four members.

In closing up this report, your Committee would call particular attention to two or three points.

First: A practice has obtained of members holding letters beyond a reasonable time, and, in some instances, of absenting themselves in distant parts without due notice. Your Committee recommend pastors to give particular instruction, especially to young and inexperienced members, upon this subject.

Another point to which attention is called, is the importance of

calling out the various gifts of members. Even where the gifts may not be such as to give promise of usefulness in the ministry, there are other departments of benevolent effort, as the prayer meeting, the sabbath school, the religious instruction of the blacks, and other things which afford ample opportunities of usefulness, in which young members might be profitably engaged.

The condition of some of the feeble churches in this body, demands also a special notice, and your Committee would earnestly suggest that, in addition to the labors of the missionaries, pastors would unite to hold meetings with such churches, either in connection with the missionaries or otherwise, and that such service might be performed on fifth Sundays, when they can conveniently be absent from their respective charges.

With regard to another practice to which attention has been called, your Committee feel that the evils arising from it are so grave as to call for a distinct resolution of this body. The practice alluded to is that of members calling for letters, because of some dissatisfaction with the action of the majority, and in reference to the practice your Committee respectfully recommend the passage of the following:

Resolved, *That the practice above referred to, is, in the judgment of this body, generally injurious, and that brethren be affectionately advised to desist from such a course.*

All of which is respectfully submitted.

C. F. STURGIS, *Chairman.*

REPORT OF THE MISSIONARY BOARD.

Your Board beg leave to report that ten years have elapsed since the Alabama Baptist Association, as a body, undertook to supply the destitute with the word of life. Previous to 1842, in consequence of the opposition to the Missionary enterprise, the little that was done for the destitute in your bounds was done by an organization called the "Itinerant Society;" but it seemed that God did not approve the plan. But little success attended the undertaking. No church, so far as we know, was organized by that society, and but few were baptised into church fellowship by its Missionaries. In 1842, your Association undertook to send the gospel to to destitute in its bounds. The churches approved your course, making you their agent, and annually sending up their bounty, thus bidding you God speed in the good work. Their prayers and alms were had in remembrance before God, and a rich blessing descended upon your labors. Fourteen Churches have been constituted by your Missionaries, which now contain an aggregate of about eight hundred communicants. Should we not "thank God and take courage?" But the work is not all done that should be done by your body. The churches which you have planted should be watered; and still the cry is, from other neighborhoods where your Missionaries have not preached, "Come over and help us!"

Your Board engaged Brother J. S. Holmes for the past year, at the rate of $500 per annum, to be paid for the time only he should serve the Board. Your Board also engaged Brother J. U. Wilkes, who commenced laboring in the service of the Board on the 23d of May, and continued to labor in the Missionary field till the 3d instant, at $45 dollars per month. Brother Holmes commenced laboring in the service of the Association on the 28th of January last, and has continued in the service up to the present time, with the exception of eight days absence, in consequence of sickness in his family, for which your Board made no deduction from his salary. Brother Holmes reports that he has travelled 2142 miles, preached 90 sermons, delivered 52 exhortations and lectures, made 180 family visits. ordained 2 Deacons, constituted 1 Church, received into the fellowship of the churches 43 communicants—12 by baptism and 31 by letter.

Brother Wilkes reports that he has travelled in the service of the Association 1200 miles, preached 67 sermons, assisted in conducting 9 protracted meetings, (mostly in connection with Brother Holmes.) and performed other labors, such as visiting families, delivering exhortations, &c.

Your Board would further report that, at an early day of the current year, a special committee was appointed to select suitable books, of the issue of the Southern Publication Society, and instructed their Secretary to order books to the amount of the Book Fund ; and also to ask for the number of Bibles due your Association from the Bible Society, to be distributed by your Missionaries ; but, in consequeuce of circumstances beyond their control, the books have not yet been received. Respectfully submitted,

DAVID LEE, *President.*

REPORT ON DOCUMENTS.

Your Committee would respectfully report that no documents have been placed in their possession, except the corresponding letters of several sister Associations. Those documents collectively give to us evidence of the growth of the Redeemer's kingdom, and an increased interest among our Brethren on the important subject of general education. The Tuskegee Association has completed her College building, and the institution is now in successful operation. At the last meeting of the above Association, a resolution was unanimously passed inviting the Associations with whiom she corresponds, to send up delegates to the next meeting of their body, to devise some plan of union among the Asssociations of East Alabama, in regard to the endowment of the East Alabama Female College, and also to devise some system for the education of the daughters of superannuated, indigent, and deceased Baptist Ministers. We agree with the said Association that the end aimed at is not only laudable, but devoutly to be desired. She also requests this Association to meet her in council on these important subjects. We re-

commend this Association to meet the Tuskegee Associatiou in Conference.

From the Central Association we find the following preamble and resolutions:

Whereas, a system of free schools and academic education is of great State and national importanca, as well as intimately connected with Protestant Christianity throughout our land; therefore, be it

Resolved, That a committee be appointed, to act either alone or in concert with others, who may be associated with it for the same purpose, to enlist public and legislative action on the subject. We also recommend the appointment of committees to correspond with the committee appointed by the Central Association on the subject of free schools and academic education. All of which is respectfully submitted. P. H. LUNDY, *Chairman*.

REPORT ON MISSIONS.

The Committee on Missions beg leave to report that they deem it unnecessary at this time to attempt to prove that it is the duty of the Church to give the gospel to the world. The express command of our Lord Jesus Christ—"Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel unto every creature"—is a sufficient warrant to us on that subject. The only question that vitally concerns us now is, how can this injunction of our Redeemer be most effectually carried out? How can more men be brought into the field of foreign missionary labors? We are instructed by our Savior to "pray the Lord of the harvest that he would send more laborers into his harvest." It is, therefore, the peculiar prerogative of the King in Zion to call and qualify men for this great work. There are occupied by American Baptists about 45 stations; we have in the field 64 ordained Ministers, 13 male assistants, 72 female assistants and 149 native assistants, making in all 298 laborers, under the appointment of our several Boards. The number of church members at these stations will, it is thought, exceed 10,000.

But how little, comparatively, has yet been done! More than eighteen hundred years have rolled away since the Savior commissioned his disciples to preach the gospel to every creature; and yet how small a portion of its territory has been enlightened by that gospel! We recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

1st, *Resolved*, That the present necessities of our foreign missionary fields, call loudly upon our churches to pray earnestly the "Lord of the harvest that he may send more laborers into the harvest."

2d, *Resolved*, That the pressing necessities of a perishing world for the word of life, demand an increased liberality on the part of our churches. Respectfully submitted,

I. T. TICHENOR, *Chairman*.

REPORT OF THE FINANCIAL COMMITTEE.

	Pledges rec'd for Miss. in Alabama Association.	Dom. Miss. Ala. Association.	Gen'l Dom. Miss.	Foreign Missions	Indian Missions.	Beneficiaries Howard College.	B. Distribution.	S. P. Society.	Minutes.
Shiloh,	$20,50		$26,00	$36,00	$15,00	$10,00	$16,00	$10,00	$2,50
Providence,		$25,50							2,50
Centre Ridge,		24,50							3,00
Mt. Lebanon,		5,00							2,50
Damascus,		10,00				4,85			3,00
Siloam,									
Zion,		14,25							2,05
Spring Hill,									
Sister Springs,		8,00	8,75	14,25	14,75	6,25	6,50	3,50	2,50
Town Creek,	40,00								4,00
Benton,	17,00					12,50			2,00
Mt. Gilead,	27,00								2,00
Bethany.		30,00				9,30			3,00
Ash Creek,	11,35	50,65	33,00	21,30	21,30	9,85	16,30	7,25	2,00
Hopewell,	25,00		5,00	5,00	5,00	5,00			2,50
Smyrna,	10,00								
Hickory Grove,		10,00		6,00		5,00			2,00
Hayneville,									2,00
Good Hope,		5,00							1,75
Antioch,		5,00	3,00	2,00		1,00	6,00		2,50
Montgomery,		30,00							2,00
Liberty,		18,00							2,50
Mt. Lebanon, or Pisgah,		13,00		3,00		6,50			1,50
Elim,		20,00			3,00				2,50
Rehoboth,		25,00		5,00	1,00	1,00	2,00	5,00	2,75
Unity,						18,75	9,87	9,87	2,50
Panther Creek,		13,75	1,00	1,75	2,75	1,00	1,50	50	2,50
Ebenezer.		3,50	1,50	1,50	1,75	1,25	2,50	1,75	2,00
Philadelphia,									2,35
Bethesda,		10,00							1,00
Sarepta,									1,00
Armageddon,									
New Hope,									1,25
Fellowship,									
	$150,85	321,15	78,25	95,80	64,55	92,25	60,67	37 87	65,65

	CHURCHES.	POST OFFICES.	MINISTERS.	CLERKS.	Baptised.	Rec'd by Vouch-er.	Rec'd by Letter.	Dis. by Letter.	Excluded.	Restored.	Deceased.	Whites.	Blacks.	Whole No.	Sab. Meetings.
First District.	Shiloh,	Selma, Dallas county,	John Dennis,	Wm. Johnson,	13		2	6	2		2	25	206	231	3
	Providence,	Orrville, " "	John Dennis,	J. A. Norwood,	2		5	5	3	2	3	47	45	92	4
	Centre Ridge,	Richmond, "	C. F. Sturgis,	A. M. McIver,	22		5	5	3			89	114	203	
	Mt. Lebanon,	Pleasant Hill, "	P. H. Lundy,	Thos. U. Robinson,	11		2	6				48	17	65	4
	Damascus,	Butlerville, Butler county,	M. Bishop,	Robert W. Black,	2		6					97	8	105	3
	Siloam,	Millville, " "	M. Bishop,	Wm. Upshaw,								63	1	64	2
	Union,											25	2	27	
	Zion,	" " "	Missionary,	H. M. Merrel,	2		1	3	2			27	3	30	
	Spring Hill,	" " "										18		18	
	New Hope,	" " "	Missionary,	Stephen Bishop,	9		8							17	
Second District.	Sister Springs,	Benton, Lowndes county,	D. Peebles,	Jere. Johnson,			1	2	1	1	1	47	63	110	4
	Town Creek,	" " "	P. H. Lundy,	B. F. Hardy,	7		5	6	1			168	80	248	2
	Benton,	" " "	D. Peebles,	Jno. C. Hill,	5		1	1	2		1	29	27	56	1
	Mt. Gilead,	" " "	P. H. Lundy,	E. G. Wagner,			2	11	2		1	32	102	134	3
	Bethany,	Collerine, " "	P. H. Lundy,	Dan'l Rast,	17		23	6	3	2		82	162	244	1
	Ash Creek,	Benton, " "	D Peebles,	J. O. Miller,	3		3	3	1		3	43	75	118	2
	Hopewell,	Mt. Willing, " "	D. Lee,	B. B. Rudolph,	2		1	2			1	72	43	115	1, 3
	Smyrna,	Hayneville, " "	Peter Bell,									20	23	43	1
	Hickory Grove,	Hickory Grove, Montgomery county,	M. Bishop,	Asa Dean,			4	1				31	8	39	4
	Hayneville,	Hayneville, Lowndes county,	D. P. J. Murphy,	A. L. Haralson,				1			3	35	7	42	2, 4
	Good Hope,	Manningham, Butler county,	Peter Bell,	A. Peagler,	1		1	1				25	4	29	2
Third District.	Antioch,	Mt. Meigs, Montgomery county,	W. S. Lloyd,	W. B. Ray,	4		1	7	5	1	3	47	316	363	2
	Montgomery,	Montgomery,	I. T. Tichenor,	W. P. Vandever,	21		33	39	5		9	151	343	494	E 8
	Liberty,	Pine Level,	G. G. McLendon,	B. Cantey,	1		5	20	2			27	28	55	3
	Elim,	Montgomery,	W. S. Lloyd,	M. McLemore,	2		2	8	1	2	3	22	333	355	4
	Rehoboth,	Montgomery.	A. T. M. Handey,	R. J. Ware,	25			2	4	2	1	89	168	257	1, 3
	Unity,	Prattville, Autauga county,	D. R. W. McIver,	Dan'l Holt,	8		2	8	2			50	38	88	
	Panther Creek,	Line Creek, Montgomery county,	A. T. M. Handey,	J. E. Barnett,	6		2	7	2	1		70	71	141	4
	Ebenezer,	Cubihatchie, Macon county,	W. S. Lloyd,	J. M. F. Parker,	20		8	16	3		1	92	14	106	1
	Fair Prospect,	Strata, Montgomery county,												38	
	Philadelphia,	Argus, " "	M. Bishop,	J. G. Cook,	4		3	2	1	1		39	2	41	2
	Bethesda,	Strata, " "	Missionary,	J. R. McLendon,			15					22	1	23	
	Sarepta,	Pine Level, " "	Missionary,	S. Guice,			2	6						18	
	Armageddon,	Oak Grove, " "	Missionary,											22	
	*Mt. Lebanon,	Catoma, " "	G. G. McLendon,	Jesse R. Ray,		1		36				18	29	47	4
	Fellowship,	Hayneville, Lowndes county,	D. P. J. Murphy,	Thos. Blake,								13	10	23	3
					187	1	138	210	45	12	32	1663	2343	4101	

*Formerly Pisgah.

NOTE. The following Churches were not represented in the Association: Siloam, Union, Spring Hill, Fair Prospect, Smyrna and Armageddon. Their total number last year is set down.

ORDAINED MINISTERS

BELONGING TO THIS ASSOCIATION.

R. CARSON,.....Pleasant Hill, Dallas co., Alabama.
P. H. LUNDY,..... " " " "
LEVI PARKS,.....Cambridge, " "
C. F. STURGIS,.....Carlowville, " "
DAVID LEE,.....Mt. Willing, Lowndes co., "
I. LYON,.....Benton, " "
D. PEEBLES, Jr.,..... " " "
D. P. J. MURPHY,.....Hayneville, " "
PETER BELL,..... " " "
MATTHEW BISHOP,.....Greenville, Butler co., "
H. C. FULLER,..... " " "
I. T. TICHENOR,.....Montgomery, Montg'y co., "
P. W. SPEAR,..... " " "
ALFRED BOYD,.....Strata, " "
A. T. M. HANDEY,.....Cross Keys, Macon co., "

PLAN OF SYSTEMATIC BENEVOLENCE.

We, the subscribers, promise to pay to the Treasurer or Deacons of —— Church, the amounts opposite our names, for the several objects specified below:

SUBSCRIBERS' NAMES.	Dom. Mis. as in the Assoc'n	Gen'l Dom. Missions.	For. Missions	Indian Missions.	Beneficiaries H. College.	Bible Dist'n.	Southern Pub. Society.	Total.

The above is the plan recommended by this Association to the Churches within her bounds, for the collection of funds for the objects named in the columns. Will not our Pastors and Deacons see that it be adopted and carried out by all our Churches?